

POLICE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

(Competitive Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

Employees in positions of this class perform entrance-level work in operating communications equipment, keeping records, and other duties in the central communications center of the police department. They answer police and fire telephones, dispatch police and fire units, and keep simple records of these activities following department procedures. Duties of this class are non-supervisory in nature and require the ability to act independently following standard operating procedures. Communications officers report to and have work reviewed by shift supervisors.

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Answers telephone and secures the most accurate information possible for any incident from the caller; takes complaints from other sources such as police units or citizens coming into the station; determines the correct unit(s) to be dispatched and any other pertinent information by following departmental procedure; dispatches unit(s).

Keeps track of location and condition of each unit at all times; stays in touch with units; takes requests for assistance and complies with such; relays instructions from supervisors, messages, emergency information etc.

Calls state police or other law enforcement or other fire agencies by phone or radio to send or receive messages concerning auto licenses, driver's licenses, runaways, criminal records, assistance of fire emergencies, etc.

Answers all police and fire department telephones and transfers callers to the correct office or department; takes telephone messages for police department personnel and delivers them.

Keeps logs, records, files, and lists by making entries on a regular basis or by periodically reviewing and up-dating information.

Files report forms, cards, logs, tapes, or other items for future reference; fills out forms, reports, or official documents required by the department;

Notifies repair crew or supervisor of any malfunctioning equipment.

Trains new communications officers by giving demonstrations, assisting with work performance, or supervising work performed during training period.

Prepares for shift change by briefing oncoming shift or by being briefed by outgoing shift, checking records from previous shift, or assembling necessary supplies and equipment. Operate all fire alarm dispatching equipment in the central dispatch.

Performs related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements must be met before admission to examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States, and passing a civil service examination for the position.

Applicant must possess one of the following: high school diploma, high school equivalency certificate, high school transcript, affidavit from the issuing high school, associate's or bachelor's degree, or college transcript, any one of which must indicate that graduation has occurred or a degree awarded. A certification of completion shall not be sufficient to substitute for a diploma or equivalency certificate.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a medical examination prepared and administered by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

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